

Office:

616 Amity Street  
Homestead, Pa.

## Homestead Grays Baseball Club

*Negro National League Champions 1937-38-40-41*

RUFUS JACKSON, President, Treasurer • C. W. POSEY, Secretary

S. H. POSEY, Business Manager • VIC HARRIS, Manager

# Press Release

## "THE BEST MONEY MAKER IN COLORED BASEBALL"

April 24, 1942

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### HOMESTEAD GRAYS IN BAD SPOT

### WHEN ACES FAIL TO SHOW FORM

Pittsburgh, Pa.--When the Newark Eagles blanked Homestead Grays 9-0 in Richmond, Va., on April 5th, the defeat was charged to cold weather and improper condition of players. But when the same outfit dropped a double bill to Newark again on April 12th in Washington, D. C., 13-8 and 9-4, the home office refused to accept the same excuse. It was revealed that Newark had trained only two days longer in Richmond under almost identical weather conditions as prevailed in Raleigh, where the Homesteaders set their Spring camp.

Cum Posey and Sonnyman Jackson saw the double pasting that Newark's youngsters handed their baseball investment. It was not the loss itself that caused the front office men to run so hot, but the way the games were lost. Newark fought and hustled all the way. Pitchers worked hard, fielders scampered and scooted everywhere the ball was hit, and the few feeble rallies attempted by the Grays were nipped right in their first stages. Then, to top off a bad situation, several of the seasoned stars got befuddled when they got their hands on the ball and threw to wrong bases--thereby giving runs away.

enough  
All of this would be bad/with a bunch of youngsters just emerging from baseball's elementary class. But these Homestead Grays, almost to a man, won the Negro National League title last year, and say they will do it again this year. Early performances, though, don't bear out this claim.



## 2--Homestead Grays

Of all the teams, Newark Eagles is the last one that the front office men want to do the humiliating. There is an open claim in both camps about which gang is the best, and Cum Posey and Sonnyman Jackson get way down in the dumps when Mr. and Mrs Manley get a chance to do their bragging. And can they brag?

Early this year, the front office men took a long peep into the future. They considered war conditions. Dickered and compromised with a few holdouts. Raised salaries here and there. And, to make sure that the Negro National League pennant would again return to Homestead, they up and get Josh Gibson. This big receiver, has won honors in all the foreign countries as a big league defense man and home run cloyter and was just what the Grays needed. With Josh and Buck Leonard doing most of the extra base hitting, the Grays had an edge on every other team in the loop--so they figured.

All of this high powered planning tunred into a flimsy bubble last Sunday. Nothing that Josh, Buck, Ches Williams, Vic Harris or any other player did could be called a redeeming act. The whole team was out of gear, and seemed satisfied to operate that way. The attitude was wrong and the spirit was absent. And, that is what the front office men are sore about.

After a conference, starting early last Monday morning and lasting well into the night, the front office men decided that the Homestead Grays must show something besides their uniforms next Sunday when they meet the young Eagles again in Newark. Jersey fans are all worked up about how the Manley inspired youngsters have been performing. They have gone so far that the aged and feeble are planning to come out to Ruppert Stadium next Sunday and see the show. Manley's kids have told it all over town that they are going to do it again --beat Homestead Grays, and beat them bad.

Well, if it happens that way, some of the Grays satellites will go on the trading block or get tickets to home. The front office is not going to wait until July to think about



### 3--Homestead Grays

a shakeup. Nor will there be a preferred list. Whoever it is or how many there are, who want to get by on last Year's home runs or double plays, or cannot pull out of their winter sleep. will be tagged one way or another.

This is the first time in over twenty-five years of operation that Homestead Grays players have been on a spot of this kind. Under the leadership of Cum Posey all of the Grays squads have had plenty of husile and fight. In the years since Vic Harris has been manager, those same qualities were conspicuously evident. The Grays have ran into losing streaks, but they were always fighting and giving fans a run for their money when they lost. It was that kind of heads up stuff that made Homestead Grays the greatest gate attraction of all colored baseball clubs.

The front office has decided on the middle of May as the deadline for the slow motion stuff. Two dates are outstanding: May 3rd in Newark, which officially opens the season there; and May 9th when the Grays open at Forbes Field in Pittsburgh against the re-vamped New York Black Yankees. If the reel hasn't changed by then, something is going to happen.

---

#### The Grays schedule:

- May 3--At Newark with Newark  
4--Johnstown Johnnies at Johnstown  
5--Tom Martins A C, Homestead Park  
6--Corbins at New Kensington  
7--Beaver Falls, tentative  
8--Black Yankees at Uniontown  
9--Black Yankees at Forbes Field, Opening game at home  
10--Black Yankees at Griffith Stadium, Washington, D. C.  
11--open  
12--Baltimore Elites at Akron, 6:30  
13--Dayton Frigidaires at Dayton  
14--Baltimore Elites at Dayton  
15--Baltimore Elites at Canton  
16--Baltimore Elites at Forbes Field--doubleheader  
17--Baltimore Elites at Griffith Stadium, Washington, DC  
18--Baltimore Elites at Baltimore--night

x x x